

MIS

Thy shepherds we hurt not, neither was there ought mis-
fing unto them.
For a time caught up to God, as once
Moses was in the mount, and *missing* long,
And the great Thibite, who on fiery wheels
Rode up to heaven, yet once again to come. *Milt. Par. R.*
5. To miscarry; to fail.
Th' invention all admir'd, and each, how he
To be th' inventor *miss'd*, so easy it seem'd,
Once found, which yet unfound most would have thought
Impossible. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. v.*
6. To fail to obtain, learn, or find: sometimes with *of* before
the object.
Gritus *missing* of the Moldavian fell upon Maylat. *Knolles.*
The moral and relative perfections of the Deity are easy
to be understood by us; upon the least reflection we cannot
miss of them. *Atterbury's Sermons.*
Miss. n. f. [from the verb.]
1. Lots; want.
In humble dales is footing fast,
The trode is not so tickle,
And though one fall through heedless haste,
Yet is his *miss* not mickle. *Spenser's Pastoral.*
I could have better spar'd a better man.
Oh, I should have a heavy *miss* of thee,
If I were much in love with vanity. *Shakespeare, Henry IV.*
If these papers have that evidence in them, there will be
no great *miss* of those which are lost, and my reader may be
satisfied without them. *Locke.*
2. Mistake; error.
He did without any great *miss* in the hardest points of
grammar. *Ascham's Schoolmaster.*
Missal. n. f. [*missale*, Lat. *missel*, Fr.] The mass book.
By the rubric of the *missal*, in every solemn mass, the
priest is to go up to the middle of the altar. *Stillingfleet.*
To *MISSALY. v. n.* [*miss* and *for*.] To say ill or wrong.
Their ill haviour garrs men *missy*,
Both of their doctrine and their say. *Spenser's Past.*
Diggon Davie, I bid her goddys,
Or Diggon her is, or I *missy*. *Spenser's Past.*
We are not dwarfs, but of equal stature, it Vives *missy*
Hakevill on Providence.
not.
To *MISSSEM. v. n.* [*mis* and *sem*.]
1. To make false appearance.
Foul Dueffa meet,
Who with her witchcraft and *misseming* sweet
Inveigled her to follow her desires unmeet. *Fairy Queen.*
2. To misbecome. Obsolete both.
Never knight I saw in such *misseming* plight. *Pa. Qu.*
To *MISSERVE. v. a.* [*mis* and *serve*.] To serve unfaithfully.
Great men, who *misserve*d their country, were fined very
highly. *Arbutnot on Coins.*
To *MISSHAPE. v. a. part.* *misshaped* and *misshapen*. [*mis* and
shape.] To shape ill; to form ill; to deform.
A rude *misshapen*, monstrous rabblement. *Pa. Qu.*
His monstrous scalp down to his teeth it tore,
And that *misshapen* shape, *misshapen* more. *Fairy Queen.*
Him then she does transform to monstrous hues,
And horribly *misshapen* with ugly lights,
Captiv'd eternally in iron mews. *Fairy Queen, b. ii.*
This *misshapen* knave, *Shakespeare's Tempest.*
His mother was a witch.
And will the yet debate her eyes on me. *Shak. Rich. III.*
On me that halt and am *misshapen* thus.
Let the *misshapen* trunk that bears this head
Be round impaled with a glorious crown. *Shakespeare.*
Pride will have a fall: the beautiful trees go all to the
wreck here, and only the *misshapen* and despicable dwarf is
left standing. *L'Estrange.*
Pluto hates his own *misshapen* race,
Her sister furies fly her hideous face. *Dryden's En.*
They make bold to destroy ill-formed and *misshapen* pro-
ductions. *Locke.*
The Alps broken into so many steps and precipices, form
one of the most irregular, *misshapen* scenes in the world. *Addis.*
We ought not to believe that the banks of the ocean are
really deformed, because they have not the form of a regular
bulwark; nor that the mountains are *misshapen*, because they
are not exact pyramids or cones. *Bentley's Sermons.*
Some figures monstrous and *misshap'd* appear
Consider'd singly, or beheld too near,
Which but proportion'd to their site or place,
Due distance reconciles to form and grace. *Pope.*
2. In *Shakespeare*, perhaps, it once signifies ill directed: as, *to*
shape a course.
Thy wit, that ornament to shape and love,
Misshapen in the conduct of them both,
Like powder in a skill-less soldiers flask,
Is set on fire. *Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet.*
MISSILE. adj. [*missilis*, Lat.] Thrown by the hand; striking
at distance.
We bend the bow, or wing the *missile* dart. *Pope.*

MIS

MISSION. n. f. [*missio*, Latin.]
1. Commission; the state of being sent by supreme authority.
Her son tracing the desert wild,
All his great work to come before him set,
How to begin, how to accomplish best,
His end of being on earth, and *mission* high. *Milt. Pa. Reg.*
The divine authority of our *mission*, and the powers vested
in us by the high-priest of our profession, Christ Jesus, are
publicly disputed and denied. *Atterbury.*
2. Persons sent on any account, usually to propagate religion.
In these ships there should be a *mission* of three of the bre-
thren of Solomon's house, to give us knowledge of the sci-
ences, manufactures, and inventions of all the world, and
bring us books and patterns; and that the brethren should
stay abroad till the new *mission*. *Bacon's New Atlantis.*
3. Dismission; discharge. Not in use.
In Cesar's army, somewhat the soldiers would have had,
yet only demanded a *mission* or discharge, though with no in-
tention it should be granted, but thought to wrench him to
their other desires; whereupon with one cry they asked *mis-
sion*. *Bacon's Appian.*
4. Faction; party. Not in use.
Glorious deeds, in these fields of late,
Made emulous *missions* amongst the gods themselves,
And drove great Mars to faction. *Shakespeare.*
MISSIONARY. n. f. [*missionaire*, French.] One sent to propa-
gate religion.
You mention the prebyterian *missionary*, who hath been
persecuted for his religion. *Swift.*
Like mighty *missioner* you come,
Ad partes infidelium. *Dryden.*
MISSIVE. adj. [*missive*, French.]
1. Such as may be sent.
The king grants a licence under the great seal, called a
congé d'essire, to elect the person he has nominated by his
letters *missive*. *Ayliffe's Purgeon.*
2. Used at distance.
In vain with darts a distant way they try,
Short, and more short, the *missive* weapons fly. *Dryden.*
MISSIVE. n. f. [*missive*, French.]
1. A letter sent: it is retained in Scotland in that sense.
Great aids came in to him; partly upon *missives*, and
partly voluntaries from many parts. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
2. A messenger.
Rioting in Alexandria, you
Did pocket up my letters; and with taunts
Did gibe my *missive* out of audience. *Shakespeare.*
While wrapt in the wonder of it came *missives* from the
king, who all hail'd me thane of Cawder. *Shakespeare, Macbeth.*
MISSPEAK. v. a. [*mis* and *speak*.] To speak wrong.
It is not so; thou hast *misspoke*, misheard;
Tell o'er thy tale again. *Shakespeare, King Lear.*
A mother delights to hear
Her early child *misspeak* half-utter'd words. *Dante.*
MIST. n. f. [*mist*, Saxon.]
1. A low thin cloud; a small thin rain not perceived in single
drops.
Old Chaucer, like the morning star,
To us discovers day from far;
His light those *mists* and clouds dissolv'd
Which our dark nation long involv'd. *Dante.*
And *mists* condens'd to clouds obscure the sky,
And clouds dissolv'd, the thrifty ground supply. *Raymond.*
As a *mist* is a multitude of small but solid globules, which
therefore descend; so a vapour, and therefore a watry cloud,
is nothing else but a congeries of very small and concave glo-
bules, which therefore ascend to that height, in which they
are of equal weight with the air, where they remain suspend-
ed, till by some motion in the air, being broken, they de-
scend in solid drops; either small, as in a *mist*, or bigger,
when many of them run together, as in rain. *Grew.*
But hov'ring *mists* around his brows are spread,
And night with fable shades involves his head. *Dryden.*
A cloud is nothing but a *mist* flying high in the air, as a
mist is nothing but a cloud here below. *Locke.*
2. Any thing that dims or darkens.
My peoples eyes were once blinded with such *mists* of fa-
picion, they are soon misled into the most desperate actions.
King Charles.
His passion cast a *mist* before his sense,
And either made or magnify'd th' offence. *Dryden.*
To *MIST. v. a.* [from the noun.] To cloud; to cover with a
vapour or steam.
Lend me a looking-glass;
If that her breath will *mist* or stain the stone,
Why then the lives. *Shakespeare, King Lear.*
MISTAKEABLE. adj. [from *mistake*.] Liable to be conceived
wrong.
It is not strange to see the difference of a third part in so
large an account, if we consider how differently they are set
forth in minor and less *mistakeable* numbers. *Brown.*
To

MIS

To *MISTAKE. v. a.* [*mis* and *take*.] To conceive wrong; to
take something for that which it is not.
The towns, neither of the one side nor the other, willingly
opening their gates to strangers, nor strangers willingly en-
tering for fear of being *mistaken*. *Sidney.*
These did truly apprehend a great affinity between their
practice of invocation of saints and the heathen idolatry, or
else there was no danger one should be *mistaken* for the other.
Stillingfleet.
This if neglected will make the reader very much *mistake*,
and misunderstand his meaning, and render the sense very
perplexed. *Locke.*
Fancy passes for knowledge, and what is prettily said is *mis-
taken* for solid. *Locke.*
Fools into the notion fall,
That vice or virtue there is none at all:
Ask your own heart, and nothing is so plain,
'Tis to *mistake* them costs the time and pain. *Pope.*
To *MISTAKE. v. n.* To err; not to judge right.
Seeing God found folly in his angels; mens judgments,
which inhabit these houses of clay, cannot be without their
mistakings. *Kaleigh's Hist. of the World.*
Seldom any one *mistakes* in his names of simple ideas, or
applies the name red to the idea green. *Locke.*
Servants *mistake*, and sometimes occasion misunderstand-
ings, among friends. *Swift.*
MISTAKE. pret. and part. pass. of *mistake* for *mistaken*, and fo
retained in Scotland.
This dagger hath *mistaken*; for lo! the sheath
Lies empty on the back of Mountague,
The point misheathed in my daughter's bosom. *Shakespeare.*
To *le MISTAKE. n.* To err.
England is so idly king'd.
—You are too much *mistaken* in this king:
Question, your grace, the late ambassadors,
How modest in exception, and withal
How terrible in constant resolution. *Shakespeare, Henry V.*
Mistaken Brutus thought to break their yoke,
But cut the bond of union with that stroke. *Waller.*
MISTAKE. n. f. [from the verb.] Misconception; error.
He never shall find out fit mate; but such
As some misfortune brings him, or *mistake*. *Milton.*
Infallibility is an absolute security of the understanding from
all possibility of *mistake* in what it believes. *Tillotson.*
Those errors are not to be charged upon religion, or superstitious *mis-
takes* about it. *Bentley's Sermons.*
MISTAKINGLY. adv. [from *mistaking*.] Erroneously; falsely.
The error is not in the eye, but in the estimative faculty,
which *mistakingly* concludes that colour to belong to the wall
which does indeed belong to the object. *Boyle on Colours.*
To *MISTAKE. v. a.* [*mis* and *tate*.] To state wrong.
They *mistake* the question, when they talk of pressing cere-
monies. *Bishop Sanderson.*
To *MISTAKE. v. a.* [*mis* and *teach*.] To teach wrong.
Such guides shall be let over the several congregations as
will be sure to *mistake* them. *Bishop Sanderson.*
The extravagances of the lowliest life are the more con-
summate disorders of a *mistake* or neglected youth. *L'Estrange's Fables.*
To *MISTAKE. v. a.* [*mis* and *tell*.] To tell unfaithfully or in-
accurately.
To *MISTAKE. v. a.* [*mis* and *temper*.] To temper ill; to
disorder.
This inundation of *mistaken* humour
Rebels by you only to be qualified. *Shakespeare, King John.*
MISTAKE. adj. [from *mistake*, trade, French.] What *mistake*,
what kind of.
The redcross knight toward him crossed fast,
To weet what *mistake* might was so dismay'd,
There him he finds all fencible and agast. *Spenser.*
To *MISTAKE. v. a.* [*mis* and *tem*.] To term erroneously.
Hence banished, is banish'd from the world;
And world exil'd is death. That banished
Is death *mistaken*. *Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet.*
To *MISTAKE. v. a.* [*mis* and *think*.] To think ill; to think
wrong.
How will the country, for these woful chances,
Mistaken the king, and not be satisfy'd. *Shakespeare.*
We, the greatest, are *mistaken*
For things that others do. *Shakespeare, Ant. and Cleopatra.*
Thoughts! which how found they harbour in thy breast,
Adam! *Mistaken* of her to these so dear? *Milton.*
To *MISTAKE. v. a.* [*mis* and *time*.] Not to time right; not
to adapt properly with regard to time.
MISTINESS. n. f. [from *missy*.] Cloudiness; state of being
overcast.
The speedy depredation of air upon watry moisture, and
version of the same into air, appeareth in the sudden vanish-
ing of vapours from glass, or the blade of a sword, such as
doth not at all detain or imbibe the moisture, for the *mistiness*
scattereth immediately. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. No. 91.*

MIS

MISTION. n. f. [from *missus*, Latin.] The state of being
mingled.
In animals many actions are mixt, and depend upon their
living form as well as that of *mision*, and though they wholly
seem to retain unto the body, depart upon disunion. *Brown.*
Both bodies do, by the new texture resulting from their
mision, produce colour. *Boyle on Colours.*
MISTLETOE. n. f. [*myrtilleum*, Saxon; *mistle*, Danish, *birds'-
lime*, and *tan*, a twig.] A plant.
The flower of the *mistletoe* consists of one leaf, which is
shaped like a bafon, divided into four parts, and beset with
warts; the ovary which is produced in the female flowers is
placed in a remote part of the plant from the male flowers,
and consists of four shorter leaves; this becomes a round berry
full of a glutinous substance, inclosing a plain heart-shaped
seed: this plant is always produced from feed, and is not to
be cultivated in the earth, as most other plants, but will
always grow upon trees; from whence the ancients account-
ed it a super-plant, who thought it to be an excrecence on
the tree without the seed being previously lodged there, which
opinion is now generally confuted. The manner of its pro-
pagation is as follows, *viz.* the *mistletoe* thrush, which feeds
upon the berries of this plant in winter when it is ripe, doth
open the seed from tree to tree; for the viscous part of the
berry, which immediately surrounds the seed, doth sometimes
fasten it to the outward part of the bird's beak, which, to
get disengaged of, he strikes his beak at the branches of a
neighbouring tree, and so leaves the seed sticking by this vis-
cous matter to the bark, which, if it lights upon a smooth
part of the tree, will fasten itself, and the following winter
put out and grow: the trees which this plant doth most readi-
ly take upon are the apple, the ash, and some other smooth
kind trees: it is observable, that whenever a branch of an
oak tree hath any of these plants growing upon it, it is cut
off, and preferred by the curious in their collections of natu-
ral curiosities. *Milner.*
If snow do continue, sheepe hardly that fare
Crave *mistle* and ivy for them for to spare. *Tusser's Husb.*
A barren and detested vale, you see it is:
The trees, though Summer, yet forlorn and lean,
O'ercome with moss, and baleful *mistletoe*. *Shakespeare.*
Mistletoe groweth chiefly upon crab trees, apple trees, some-
times upon hazles, and rarely upon oaks; the *mistletoe* whereof
is counted very medicinal: it is ever green Winter and Sum-
mer, and beareth a white glittering berry; and it is a plant
utterly differing from the plant upon which it groweth. *Bacon.*
All your temples strow
With laurel green, and sacred *mistletoe*. *Gay's Trivia.*
MISTLIKE. adj. [*mist* and *like*.] Resembling a mist.
Good Romeo, hide thyself.
—Not I, unless the breath of heart-sick groans,
Mistlike infold me from the search of eyes. *Shakespeare.*
MISTOLD. particip. pass. of *mistle*.
MISTOOK. particip. pass. of *mistle*.
Look nymphs, and shepherds look,
What sudden blaze of majesty,
Too divine to be *mistook*. *Milton.*
MISTRESS. n. f. [*maistresse*, *maistresse*, French.]
1. A woman who governs: correlative to subject or to ser-
vant.
Here stood he in the dark, his sharp sword out,
Mumbling of wicked charms, conjuring the moon
To stand's auspicious *mistresses*. *Shakespeare, King Lear.*
Let us prepare
Some welcome for the *mistress* of the house. *Shakespeare.*
Like the lily,
That once was *mistress* of the field and flourish'd,
I'll hang my head and perish. *Shakespeare, Henry VIII.*
He'll make your Paris louvre shake for it,
Were it the *mistress* court of mighty Europe. *Shakespeare.*
I will not charm my tongue; I'm bound to speak;
My *mistress* here lies murder'd in her bed. *Shakespeare, Othello.*
The late queen's gentlewoman! a knight's daughter!
To be her *mistress*! *mistress*! the queen's queen. *Shakespeare.*
Rome now is *mistress* of the whole world, sea and land,
to either pole. *Benj. Johnson's Catiline.*
Wonder not, sov'reign *mistress*! if perhaps
Thou can't, who art sole wonder; much less arm
Thy looks, the heav'n of mildness, with disdain. *Milton.*
Those who assert the lunar orb presides
O'er humid bodies, and the ocean guides;
Whose waves obsequious ebb, or swelling run
With the declining or encreasing moon;
With reason seem her empire to maintain
As *mistress* of the rivers and the main.
What a miserable spectacle, for a nation that had been
mistress at sea so long!
A woman who possesses faculties uninjured.
There had the enjoyed herself while she was *mistress* of
herself, and had no other thoughts but such as might arise
out of quiet senses. *Sidney, b. ii.*
Agas